

**BOROUGH OF WIND GAP  
29 MECHANIC STREET  
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The Council meeting of the Borough of Wind Gap on Tuesday, June 22, 2010, was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Council President, Scott Parsons, at which time he reminded those present that the meeting was being recorded. In attendance were Council persons: Dave Hess, George Hinton, and John Maher. Also in attendance were Mayor James M. Shoemaker and Borough Administrator Louise Firestone. Absent were Councilmen Tony Curcio, Kerry Gassler and Joe Weaver.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

1. Attorney Dave Jordan, representing Pete Iselo, Gibraltar Development. He stated that he was attending the meeting on two matters, one the installation of the road on First Street. One of the neighbors is parking his truck in the right-of-way and impeding the progress of constructing the road. George Hinton stated that he spoke to the neighbor, Alex Cortazzo, and reviewed the drawing with him. Alex informed George that he has issues with the alley in the rear of his property and losing the six feet that belongs to him as an adjacent property owner. Alex owns a lot 40' X 145' and 145' X 51' with a pin on the westerly side of the alley. If it is on the westerly side, then the pin in the back corner has to be in the center of the alley. George suggested getting the engineers together to review the plan and place three more pins to establish the six feet in the alley. Alex expressed concern about the swale and George explained to him and confirmed with Pete Iselo that the swale is just temporary and will get filled once the road is built.

The other concern is the sidewalk waiver agreement that has not been executed by Ray Cortez at the other end of the road. George stated that he did speak with Ray and Ray wants to meet with the Borough and the engineers. Pete confirmed that it is his understanding that Gibraltar is to go by the plan for the road. The necessary Borough officials and professionals will meet at the site tomorrow to clarify any issues by the developer and/or the residents.

2. Dave Valley thanked Council for taking care of the property on Lincoln Street as far as cleaning it up. The property is currently for sale and Dave expressed concern about the property transferring hands and if the court order would still be in effect. Scott stated that if the property is in the present condition on July 9, 2010, the deadline established by the court, then it will be demolished no matter who owns it at that time. George added that he contacted Stewart from Giroux to get a cost estimate for demolishing the structure.

**On motion** by George Hinton to demolish the property at 133 Lincoln Street once the Borough receives an estimate of \$12,000 in writing and the Borough Solicitor, Ronold Karasek, approves the Borough proceeding and seconded by John Maher. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

1. EMS – Kerry Gassler was absent.

2. Fire Company – Dave Hess reported the Fire Company responded to 19 calls in May. The carnival was a success, but the Parade was not so good. The Fire Company decided last night that they will no longer sponsor a parade on the Saturday of the carnival. The Fire Company originally set

a three year time on determining the continuation of the parade and for all the work and expense involved it is not worth the time and effort. Dave thanked the Borough Street Department, John Zucal and Randy Bogart for providing the barricades.

3. Zoning – Tony Curcio was absent. Louise informed Council that Tony Curcio, who suffered a heart attack, was moved from the hospital to the Slate Belt Rehabilitation Center to continue rehab. Mrs. Curcio said that Tony is hoping to be back at Council by the August meeting. No Zoning Hearing Board will be held in July.

4. Planning – Scott Parsons reported that the Planning Commission met to discuss the Mutchnitz plan and it was approved with the waivers.

5. Municipal Authority – John Maher reported that the Municipal Authority has not gone out to bid on their portion of the replacement of sewer lines on Lehigh Avenue. The meeting is tomorrow and he will receive an updated status on this project. Louise added that the Authority did provide a bid specification package to the Borough for Brian Pysher to review.

6. Streets – George Hinton reported that the street workers were out painting lines and crosswalks. They fixed some signs around the Borough. George asked Brian to set up a pre-construction meeting with Muschlitz once the contract is signed for the Lehigh Avenue project and inform Council so members can attend if they wish. Dave Hess stated that he had a resident inquire why the street crew was on South Broadway repairing someone's curb. He asked John Zucal and John stated that the Mayor asked them to do the repair. Mayor Shoemaker responded that the curb was repaired because it was possibly damaged by the snow plow. George added that if the Borough is at fault, then the Borough should be responsible. Scott stated that each incident must be dealt with on an individual basis. He reminded Council that if George is not around, Dave Hess and John Maher also serve on the street committee.

7. Police – Mayor Shoemaker reported that the Police responded to 170 calls in May, 7 motor vehicle accidents, 5 traffic citations and 2,431 miles were put on the vehicles and the specific incidents the police were involved in during the month. Officers Happel and Stonewall started working last weekend and part-time Ruiz is re-certifying his MOPEC. Currently the police are working eight hour shifts. The Mayor stated specifically what officers will be on vacation to which Council President Parsons suggested keeping the information within the department so the public is not made aware of who is on duty, or if the Borough potentially could be without local police coverage. The Chief is recommending that Officer Dailey take a one-day training class to improve his working relationship with persons of authority. It is a Fred Pryor Career Tract Seminar titled "Managing Emotions Under Pressure". The training date is November 16, 2010 to be held in Allentown, PA at a cost of \$79. Scott stated that if there is money in their continuing education budget it can be handled by the Mayor and the Chief. There was an issue with the schedule the past month because of shorthanded manpower and it should be corrected with the additional part-time officers available to work hours.

**On motion** by Dave Hess to start the process to hire a full-time police officer and seconded by John Maher. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

Dave Hess asked who would be in charge when the Chief would be out since the Borough no longer has a Sergeant. The Mayor replied that the most senior officer would be in charge and currently that is Officer Dailey.

8. Park – Joe Weaver was absent. Scott advised that if the sign is ever wrong on the park sign at the corner of South Broadway and Third Street, please stop and fix it. Chief Armitage asked if more "No Pet" signs could be installed because the signs are at the upper end of the park, but none from the basketball court down to West Street. Currently the Borough does not have a dog ordinance.

9. 911 – Tony Curcio was absent. Dave Hess stated that he has the frequency information that Tony has been requesting, but he will wait for Tony's return.
10. Building Finance Committee had nothing to report.
11. Tipping Fees – Tony Curcio was absent.
12. Property Maintenance Code had nothing to report.

## **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Shoemaker reported that the "No Parking" signs are in place on West Street and Fourth Street around the Park and the Police will be enforcing. Masonic Lodge 594 Pen Argyl would like to have a Blood Drive at the Park either August 7, or August 21 from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. He will get permission from the Park Board. He is continuing his research on the possibility of a dog park on Third Street. He may be able to have 6' or 8' chain link fence donated. The Slate Belt Council of Governments (COG) meets tomorrow, June 23, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. at Washington Township Elementary School. They are currently looking into applying for the TIGER Grant for the by-pass road.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

1. John Maher asked if Council could receive more information regarding the building permits or violations that are going on in the Borough. Louise will request that the Zoning Officer provide that report.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

1. Zoning Ordinance change on upper Broadway needs to be discussed as soon as possible. Brian Pysher needs to get the map changed. Scott informed Council that the Planning Commission must approve the change and they could meet prior to the next Council meeting since the Borough Solicitor and Borough Engineer need to attend both meetings.
2. Dave Hess asked if the Roberti property park will be cleaned up because the weeds have overtaken the area. Louise stated that a scheduled clean-up day is this Friday. The road crew will need to weed wack this area twice a year to maintain the native grasses and plants.

Scott Parsons reminded those present that the next scheduled Council meeting is July 12, 2010 at 7:30 p.m.

**On motion** by John Maher to adjourn the meeting of June 22, 2010. Council agreed unanimously.

The meeting of June 22, 2010 adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

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Louise Firestone, Borough Administrator